

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 59 and 64 through 95 are pending in this application. Claims 25, 27 through 30, 32, 39, 41, 46, 50, 51, 54 through 56, 64, 65, 70, 76, 77 and 85 have been amended, and claims 91 through 95 have been newly added by this Supplemental Amendment.

The several courtesies extended by the Examiner to Applicant and Applicant's undersigned attorney during the brief Office Interview on the 17th of March 2000, are noted with appreciation. Unfortunately, Paper No. 32, the Examiner's Interview Summary is too brief to accurately reflect the substance of the interview and time did not permit modification of Paper No. 32 during the interview, in view of the Examiner's hectic schedule. The Examiner's reference to amending claims 25, 43, 46, 56, 64, 65, 70, 75, 76 and 77 "to define over Gokcebay '609" is misplaced; in fact, claims 43, 46 and 56 do not contain either the "borne by" or the "provided by" language. Secondly, after careful study, Applicant has determined that the proposed substitute language is immaterial to questions of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Gokcebay '777 or over any of the other references of record. The fact remains, as previously discussed in Applicant's earlier filed responses, and has again repeated during the Office interview, that Gokcebay '777 lacks the combination defined by claims 25, 43, 46, 56, 64, 65, 70 or 75 through 77. Among other features, Gokcebay lacks Applicant's combination of a "cylinder plug," a "bar interposed between" a shell and a cylinder plug, and "an electrical operator" being electrical operable to respond to a control signal by moving" The small solenoid 36 of Gokcebay '777 includes a spring 46 coaxially positioned with a pin 36, to bias the pin 38 outwardly. See column 6, lines 38-52 of Gokcebay '777. In short, the art relied

upon by the Examiner is singularly devoid of Applicant's combination of both a bar and an electrical operator serving to obstruct, in combination, the rotation of the cylinder plug within the recess provided a shell. Absent such beneficial results flowing from this distinction such as mechanical advantage, there is no basis for maintaining this rejection.

Applicant has presented claims 91 through 105 prepared in light of the discussion during the Office interview, to alternatively define the several embodiments disclosed. Independent claim 91 deletes the separate definition of the cylinder plug as comprising the first and second bases. Independent claim 92 generically defines the several species illustrated by Figs. 5A through 5F, 6, 7, 8A through 8H and 11, in order to assist the Examiner in deciding to withdraw the outstanding requirement for election of species, which Applicant continues to traverse. Applicant notes that it is the subject matter claimed, and not the field of search, which determines the propriety of the requirement for election. In the instant application Gokcebay '777 most nearly corresponds to the embodiment shown in the Applicant's Fig. 8H, a non-elected species. The Examiner is reminded that Paper No. 4 dated 17 September 1997 clearly states that "claims 1-3, as best understood by the Examiner, appear generic to a plurality of disclosed *patentably distinct* species" Applicant, and apparently the Examiner, continue to agree with the patentable distinctiveness between the several species disclosed. Accordingly, the Examiner's continued reliance upon Gokcebay '777 which, at best, makes an incomplete disclosure of the embodiment of the non-elected and patentably distinct species of Fig. 8H of the Applicant's specification, is therefore improper. Moreover, Gokcebay '777 is already devoid of Applicant's advantageous combination of the armature borne by the cylinder

plug, providing the control of the movement between the bar and the cylinder plug.

Newly added dependent claim 93 defines the species of Figs. 8A through 8H; newly added dependent claim 94 defines the species of Fig. 8H; newly added dependent claim 95 defines the species of Figs. 8A through 8H and 11; dependent claim 96 defines the species of Figs. 6 and 7; dependent claim 97 defines the species of Fig. 5E and 5F, among others; dependent claim 98 defines the species of Figs. 5E, 5F; and dependent claim 99 defines the species of Figs. 8A-8G. Dependent claim 100 is generic to all of the several species while independent claims 101 and 102 alternatively define the several aspects of Applicant's patentably distinguishable embodiment illustrated by Fig. 8H. These claims were drafted in accordance with the discussion during the Office interview and I believe to be readily acceptable by the Examiner. Applicant requests consideration of these claims in view of the several amendments proposed by the Examiner during the Office interview.

Applicant repeats the request made during the Office interview for a declaration of interference, and an Office interview with the Group Director.

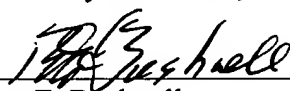
Dependent claims 103, 104 and 105, all of which define the elected species of Figs. 8A-8G, are added to patentably distinguish the embodiment disclosed from art such as Field '307.

A fee of \$291.00 is incurred by the addition of fifteen (15) dependent claims in excess of 90, and the addition of four (4) independent claim in excess of 20 filed on the 16th of March 2000 for

small entity. Applicant's check drawn to the order of Commissioner accompanies this Response. Should the check become lost, should other fees be incurred, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 02-4943 of Applicant's undersigned attorney in the amount of such fees.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all claims are deemed to be in condition for allowance. Entry of these amendments, withdrawal of the single outstanding art rejection and passage of this application to issue is respectfully requested. Should questions remain unresolved however, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicant's undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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